



**Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 3700**

**PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7453**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Takao HASEGAWA et al.) Confirmation No.: 2328
Application No.: 10/581,197) Group Art Unit: 3721
Filed: June 1, 2006) Examiner: Scott A. Smith
For: STAPLING APPARATUS) **Mail Stop AF**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR
RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 13, 2008, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, the period of response to which extends through February 13, 2008, entry of the following Amendment is respectfully requested to place the application in clear condition for allowance or, alternatively, in better form for appeal.

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